



News

U.S. Rep. Adam Putnam (Fla.-12)

Central Florida: Hillsborough, Osceola and Polk counties

March 24, 2008

Contact: Keith Rupp
Communications Director
(863) 534-3530

U.S. Rep. Adam Putnam's FY 2009 congressional spending requests

Congressman Putnam continues to call for reform of the federal spending process in order to ensure hard-earned taxpayer dollars are protected from waste, fraud and abuse. Congressman Putnam's requests continue to be held to higher principles than current practices and rules dictate. These principles include:

1. **Transparency:** All requests are fully disclosed on the Congressman's Web site upon submission.
2. **Local Commitment:** All requests reflect a commitment from local entities – many through matching funds – and a partnership with federal, state, or local governments.
3. **Local Impact:** All requests directly impact the 12th Congressional District.
4. **No Private Handouts:** All requests are for public entities or research institutions – private corporations are not recipients of any earmark request.

Below are Congressman Putnam's congressional spending requests for Fiscal Year 2009:

Agriculture

- University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS): \$4 million for research to improve technologies for the detection and treatment of Citrus Canker and Greening.
- University of Florida: \$10 million to support the T-STAR program to stem the invasion of exotic diseases, insects and weeds into the United States.
- USDA and US Dept. of Energy: \$1.2 million for continuation of genetic research into disease prevention for citrus plants.

- Florida Department of Citrus: \$2 million for development and certification of abscission chemicals to enable the effective mechanical harvesting of citrus.

Commerce, State and Justice

- Polk County: \$250,000 for continued funding of the Polk County Methamphetamine Prevention Project.
- Hillsborough County: \$250,000 for Methamphetamine prevention, treatment and site clean-up.
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC): \$1 million for Cooperative Reef Fish Monitoring and Research Program, a partnership between FWCC, the U.S. Dept. of Commerce and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Defense

- University of South Florida: \$2.5 million to support information sharing technology between USF, Tampa General Hospital, James A. Haley VA Hospital and Shriners Hospitals for Children – Tampa.

Energy and Water

- University of Florida: \$1 million for the Florida Renewable Energy Program to promote the development of new energy technologies, bioenergy fuel sources and improvements in efficiencies of existing energy sources.

EPA/Interior

- Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFMD): \$5 million for continued restoration of water quality and permanent minimum flows to the upper Peace River and Lake Wales Ridge.

Labor-HHS-Education

- Hillsborough Community College: \$500,000 for construction and equipment for the Plant City campus.
- Polk Community College: \$755,000 for construction and equipment for a new manufacturing training program, leveraging a \$12 million private grant.

Transportation/HUD

- Polk County and Lakeland Area Mass Transit Districts: \$600,000 for purchase of new rolling stock and transit system technology enhancements.
- Polk County: \$615,000 for improvements to the Polk County Agricultural Center, bringing the 1948 building into compliance with modern fire and disability standards.

In addition to these requests, Congressman Putnam is supporting the President's budget request for the Citrus Health Response Plan (CHRP) to reduce the proliferation of citrus canker, citrus greening and other citrus diseases, and requests of other members of the Florida congressional delegation for Everglades restoration, the Herbert Hoover Dike around Lake Okeechobee and maintenance and dredging of federal channels in Tampa Harbor.

###